Stay of Officers in the Department of Communications at one place

1572. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of years for which an officer of the Department of Communications is kept at a stretch at one place;

(b) whether there are any exceptions in this regard; and

(c) if so, what is the number of officers of the rank of Directors who have been staying at the same places for years together and what are the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Normally maximum period of stay at a particular station is eight Years.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There are altogether six officers of Jr. Admn. Grade who have stayed at the same station for more than eight years due to present ban on rotational transfers.

Abortions in the Country

1573. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state how many abortions|medical terminations of pregnancy took place after legalisation of abortion, State-wise and year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): A statement giving State-wise and year-wise number of Medical Termination of Pregnancies as reported by the States since the enactment of Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, *i.e.*, 1972-73 to 1988-89 is given in Annexure. (*See* Appendix CLI, Annexure No. 105].

Raw Materials of Eastern States under Freight Equalisation

1574. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the policy of freight equalisation is discriminatory towards eastern States which has kept away raw materials produced in Western States; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any plans to bring raw materials produced in Western States under this policy?

THE MINISTER OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Representations regarding the discriminatory nature of freight equalisations were received. Government have accepted in principle the recommendations of the Pande Committee (National Transport Policy Committee) Report to gradually phase out the Freight Equalisation Scheme, subject to subsidisation of transport for remote, inaccessible and isolated areas. The phasing out of freight equalisation for cement was completed by end of February, 1989 with the complete decontrol of the cement industry. However, the matter is to be deliberated upon by the National Development Council.

(b) There is no proposal to extend the Freight Equalisation Scheme to any other commodity.

IPKF Strength

1575. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY:
SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 37 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 18th July, 1989 and state:

(a) what is the total number of the IPKF personnel sent to Sri Lanka and of those withdrawn;

(b) what is the latest strength of IPKF men in Sri Lanka as on date;